[0290] Save icon **904** that when activated (e.g., by a finger gesture on the icon) initiates saving the entered phone number in the instant messages conversation list (e.g., UI **500**) and displaying a UI to compose an instant message to be sent to the entered phone number (e.g., UI **600**A); and

[0291] Number entry box **906** for entering the phone number using keyboard **624**.

[0292] Note that the keyboard displayed may depend on the application context. For example, the UI displays a soft keyboard with numbers (e.g., **624**) when numeric input is needed or expected. The UI displays a soft keyboard with letters (e.g., **616**) when letter input is needed or expected.

[0293] The foregoing description, for purpose of explanation, has been described with reference to specific embodiments. However, the illustrative discussions above are not intended to be exhaustive or to limit the invention to the precise forms disclosed. Many modifications and variations are possible in view of the above teachings. The embodiments were chosen and described in order to best explain the principles of the invention and its practical applications, to thereby enable others skilled in the art to best utilize the invention and various embodiments with various modifications as are suited to the particular use contemplated.

What is claimed is:

1. A computer-implemented method, comprising: at a portable electronic device with a touch screen display,

displaying a set of messages exchanged between a user of the device and another person in a chronological order;

detecting a scrolling gesture comprising a substantially vertical movement of a user contact with the touch screen display, wherein the detecting of the scrolling gesture is substantially independent of a horizontal position of the user contact with the touch screen display; and

responding to the scrolling gesture by scrolling the display of messages in accordance with a direction of the scrolling gesture.

2. The method of claim **1**, including displaying messages sent by the user to the other person on a first side of the touch screen display and messages sent by the other person to the user on an opposite side of the touch screen display.

3. The method of claim **1**, further including

displaying one or more timestamps adjacent one or more of the messages.

4. The method of claim **1**, further including

displaying the messages sent by the user to the other person in a first color; and

displaying the messages sent by the other person to the user in a second color, the second color different from the first color.

5. The method of claim **1**, further including

displaying the messages sent by a first one of the user and the other person left justified on the touch screen display; and

displaying the messages sent by the other one of the user and the other person right justified on the touch screen display.

6. The method of claim **1**, further including

visually animating movement of a newly sent message, from the user to the other person, from a message compose region of the touch screen display to a message display region of the touch screen display.

7. The method of claim **1**, further including

displaying the messages exchanged between the user and the other person in a message display region; and

displaying a text box and a first set of keys in a message compose region.

8. The method of claim **7**, further including

displaying a symbol in the text box upon detecting a user contact with one of the first set of keys.

9. The method of claim **7**, further including

replacing at least a subset of the first set of keys with a second set of keys upon detecting a user contact with one of the first set of keys.

10. The method of claim **7**, further including

displaying one or more text entry suggestions in the message compose region in accordance with text entered by the user; and

upon detecting a predefined user gesture, adding a user selected text entry suggestion to the text box.

11. The method of claim **7**, further including

displaying one or more text entry suggestions in the message compose region in accordance with text entered by the user; and

upon detecting a predefined user gesture, replacing at least a portion of text in the text box with a user selected text entry suggestion.

12. A computer-implemented method, comprising: at a portable electronic device with a touch screen display,

displaying a list of conversations, each conversation including a set of messages exchanged between a user of the device and a respective other person;

detecting a scrolling gesture comprising a substantially vertical movement of a user contact with the touch screen display; and

responding to the scrolling gesture by scrolling the list of conversations in accordance with a direction of the scrolling gesture, wherein the scrolling gesture is substantially independent of a horizontal position of the user contact with the touch screen display.

13. The method of claim **12**, further including

displaying an edit icon in the touch screen display;

upon detecting a user selection of the edit icon, displaying a delete icon adjacent to each listed conversation and replacing the edit icon with a done icon;

upon detecting a user selection of one of the delete icons, deleting a conversation adjacent to the user selected delete icon; and

upon detecting a user selection of the done icon, deleting the delete icon adjacent to each listed conversation and replacing the done icon with the edit icon.

14. The method of claim **12**, further including

displaying an edit icon in the touch screen display;

upon detecting a user selection of the edit icon, displaying a delete icon adjacent to each listed conversation;

upon detecting a user selection of one of the delete icons, deleting a conversation adjacent to the user selected delete icon; and

upon detecting a user selection of a portion of the touch screen display that is not occupied by any of the delete icons, deleting the delete icon adjacent to each listed conversation.